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OBITUARY



SHRI P. P. SINGHAL

Shri P. P. Singhal, a noted industrialist, left for his heavenly abode on 4th July, 1979 at Bombay following a heart attack at the age of 59. He left behind him his wife, three sons, grand childrens and a large number of friends and admirers.

Shri Singhal was born on 17th February, 1920 at Allahabad. He graduated with distinction from the University of Allahabad and was awarded a gold medal for standing first in M. Sc. (Chem.). Besides a brilliant educational carrier, he was a good sportsman and served the University as captain in aquatics (1939-42).

He started his business carrier in 1951 by establishing a firm under the name 'Mewar Oil Mills' at Udaipur in Rajasthan. In 1961, he entered into pesticide industry and established 'Pesticide India' as a formulating unit for various insecticides and fungicides and later introduced the manufacture of technical grade for some pesticides. His business interests were diversified and included mining exports and imports and sales of imported items like foreign manufactured pasticides and Soviet Computers.

He was gifted with encyclopaedic knowledge of chemistry, critical observation for right, sharp memory and planning eye. He well utilized these in the phenomenon development of a small pesticides formulating unit into a present much diversified concern. For these obvious reasons he was elected as Vice-President in 1964-67 and President twice (1967-68 and 1978-79) of Pesticide Association. He worked as member as Rajasthan Planning Board, Industrial Advisory Board, Mineral Advisory Board, State Technical Education, and was Founder President of Udaipur Industries and Commerce Associations. He was associated with a number of social and cultural institutions. He served as President of famed Bhartiya Lok Kala Mandal, Udaipur since 1960, Governor of Rotary District 305 in 1973-74 and member of several trust and education institutions.

He was a man of ideals and amicable manners and also a voracious reader and powerful speaker in both english and hindi. His wide study on Indian culture and religion has no wonder left an indelible impression on all those who met him.

Shri Singhal always took great interest in academic matters. He was actively associated with the development of the 'Society of Mycology and Plant Pathology' since its inception. He has the distinction of becoming the first Patron of the society and was instrumental in the success of two all India symposia on 'Plant-Disease Problems' held at Udaipur and Jaipur in 1975 and 1978, respectively. Not only this, he instituted an annual 'Pesticide India Award' for the best paper on 'Fungicides in Plant Disease Control' with a view to encourage the scientists and promote interest in this important field of immediate concern for the entire society.

Shri Singhal not only left deep impression of his great personality on the minds of his friends but he also firmly established certain traditions of scholarship. He will not only be missed by his family but also by a large number of friends and admirers. No doubt his passing away is an irreparable loss but he would always be remembered and occupy a place of honour amongst his friends and well wishers.

R. Prasada

